

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 DHA-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /094 W

-----109781 281317Z /46

R 280655Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7554

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NIAMEY 3480

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PBOR, NG, CD, NI, L

SUBJ: JOINT NIGER-NIGERIA MOVE TO MEDIAR IN CHAD-LIBYA DISPUTE

1. SUMMARY: NIGER AND NIGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTERS TRAVELLED TOGETHER TO TRIPOLI AND NDJAMENA JULY 24-25 IN LATEST ROUND OF DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO RESOLVE CHAD-LIBYA DISPUTE. IN COURSE OF TRIP, THEY MET WITH BOTH PRESIDENTS QADHAFI AND MALLOUM. IN MILDLY POSITIVE STATEMENT AT JOURNEY'S END, NIGER FONMIN NOTED THAT BOT CHAD AND LIBYA INTERESTED IN REDUCING TENSIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. NIGERIAN FONMIN GARBA AND NIGER FONMIN DJERMAKOYE JOINTE FORCES IN LATEST ATTEMPT TO MEDIATE CHAD-LIBYA TROUBLES. DURING STOP IN NIAMEY TO PICK UP NIGER COUNTERPART, GARBA TOLD PRESS THAT JOINT EFFORT HAD BEEN AGREED UPON DURING OBASANJO STATE VISIT TO NIAMEY ONE WEEK AGO. GARBA
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CAUTIONED THAT JOINT MISSION WAS QUOTE EXPLORATORY UNQUOTE IN NATURE AND THAT ITS OUTCOME WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT. ACCORDING TO GARBA, THE JOINT MISSION HAD NO READY, PRECONCEIVED SOLUTIONS TO HAND OUT, BUT WAS HOPING SUCH ANSWERS WOULD EVOLVE IN THE COURSE OF THE TRIP.

3. IN STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS BEFORE BOARDING PLANE BOUND FOR TRIPOLI, DJERMAKOYE SAID THAT NIGER HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN ATTEMPTS TO MEDIATE BETWEEN CHAD AND LIBYA FOR ALMOST A YEAR NOW. IN COURSE OF THESE EFFORTS, DJERMAKOYE SAID THAT HE HAD MET WITH ALL PARTIES INVOLVED, INCLUDING THE CHADIAN TOUBOU REBELS. (DJERMAKOYE DID NOT SPECIFY WHICH FACTION, BUT MEETING WITH REBEL LEADER GOUKNOUNI IN TRIPOLI APPEARS MOST LIKELY POSSIBILITY.) ACCORDING TO DJERMAKOYE, THESE UNILATERAL EFFORTS TO MEDIATE HAD ENDED WHEN OAU INVESTIGATING COMMISSION WAS SET UP AT LIBREVILLE CONFERENCE. DJERMAKOYE TOOK PAINS TO POINT OUT THAT LATEST NIGER-NIGERIA INITIATIVE WAS NOT MEANT TO COMPROMISE WORK OF OAU COMMISSION, BUT TO ENHANCE IT.

4. WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT RECENT FIGHTING BETWEEN LIBYAN AND EGYPTIAN FORCES, DJERMAKOYE DESCRIBED THE SITUATION AS DISQUIETING AND DETERIORATING. HOWEVER, HE SAID JOINT MISSION WITH GARBA WAS CONCEIVED BEFORE THESE LATEST EVENTS AND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO TACKLE TOO MANY ISSUES AT ONCE. DJERMAKOYE EMPHASIZED THAT HE AND GARBA WERE GOING TO TRIPOLI AND CHAD STRICTLY TO DISCUSS THE CHAD-LIBYA CONFLICT.

5. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS CARRIED IN JULY 26 ISSUE OF LE SAHEL, GARBA AND DJERMAKOYE WERE RECIEVED BY QADHAFI IN TRIPOLI JULY 24. MEETING WITH CHADIAN PRESIDENT MALLOUM WAS ON JULY 25. UPON LEAVING NDJAMENA, DJERMAKOYE MADE MILDLY POSITIVE STATEMENT THAT CHAD AN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LIBYA WERE QUOTE DISPOSED TO PUT TO REST THE PROBLEM OF THE CONFLICT WHICH OPPOSES THEM UNQUOTE. DJERMAKOYE RETURNED WITH GARBA TO LAGOS JULY 25 TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS AND BRIEF NIGERIAN CHIEF OF STATE ON LATEST ROUND OF WEST AFRICAN SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY. JAMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTES, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1959756
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JOINT NIGER-NIGERIA MOVE TO MEDIAR IN CHAD-LIBYA DISPUTE
TAGS: PINS, PBOR, NG, CD, NI, LY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dccfb370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009